

**Victoria Fellowship Church**  
**International & Interdenominational**  
**Bible Study Worksheet – September 4, 2022**

**Theme: Lessons from the life of David Topic: Waiting on God's promises**

**Main Texts: 2 Samuel 5:1-25**

**Key verse: 2 Samuel 5:7 – 'Nevertheless David took the stronghold of Zion (that is, the City of David).' (NKJV)**

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**INTRODUCTION:** At last, David was anointed king over all Israel – Israel and Judah! The path to this promise of God was long and had many twists and turns, some of which were life threatening. God has had enough of King Saul and made up His mind for a successor (In 1 Samuel 13:13-14). God then directs Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint Saul's successor, David. When Samuel arrives, David was not even invited to the anointing ceremony, because he was not considered a contender, by anyone's wildest dreams. Being the youngest male in the family, he was tending his father's small flock of sheep (1 Samuel 16:11; 17:28). But when none of his more able-bodied older brothers are not chosen, Samuel had David summoned from the fields and anointed as king. What God and the Prophet Samuel did not disclose was exactly how long it will be before he becomes king. It would take approximately 15 years from the time he was first anointed by Samuel to the time he became king over Judah (2 Samuel 2:4). It was another 7 years before David was anointed king over all Israel (2 Samuel 5:1-3). So, in total, David waited over 20 years of his life to see God's promise to him, that he will be king, come to pass!

- 1. Read 1 Samuel 17:28-29, 34-36; 2 Samuel 16:11-12 (a) Consider all that David went through during his period of waiting. How do you believe the time of waiting impacted him as a person and eventually, as a king? (b) Based on your answer from (a) above, would you then say that the waiting was necessary or not? Explain your answer. (c) How will you apply your answers to a promise of God which you are currently waiting to be fulfilled?**

Soon after David's anointing as Saul's replacement, as king over all Israel, things begin to happen in his life. He kills Goliath, proving himself as a man of great courage, and quickly rises from being a lowly shepherd boy to a national hero. He even becomes a beloved member of Saul's own family and household. But the kingship tarries - Saul doesn't die suddenly for God's promised kingship to be realized. Instead, David falls out of Saul's favor. So, from being the "rising star" in Israel with whom everyone wanted to be associated, David becomes an outcast and fugitive whom most Israelites dared not associate with lest they too incur Saul's wrath. David goes through many different experiences. At some point it even appeared as if an end was in sight when King Saul affirmed with his own mouth, "*I know that you will surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hands. Now swear to me by the Lord that you will not kill off my descendants or wipe out my name from my father's family.*" (1 Samuel 24:20-21 NIV). But the waiting continued! In Psalm 13:1 we get a glimpse into David's heart during the waiting period, when he cries out, "*How long will this take God?*" Though God had His reason(s) for making David wait this long, David obviously did not understand nor agree with the process and path the waiting took.

- 2. Read 2 Samuel 5:1-4, 12; Psalm 143:12b. (a) What did David learn about waiting on God's promises? (b) Let participants share lessons from a time when they had to wait for God to fulfill a promise to them and what it taught them about themselves and about God?**

Waiting can be nerve racking. King Saul couldn't even wait 7 full days, and thus the origin of his fall from the throne (1 Samuel 13:8-14). After David was anointed king over Judah, Joab couldn't wait to see the full fulfillment of God's promise to David and tried to move things forward more speedily by warfare against Israel's army led by Abner. David even tried to make a deal with Abner to secure the kingship over Israel!

- 3. (a) If David's planned alliance with Abner had worked out, how will that have impacted his enjoyment of the fulfillment of God's promise as in 2 Samuel 5:12? (b) In 2 Samuel 5:17-25, the Philistines whom David had earlier allied with turned round to fight against him. What principle does that teach us about waiting on God's promises? (c) Let participants share how this study has encouraged them to be strengthened in their waiting on God's promise(s) to them.**

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**Prayer:** Lord, as we wait for Your precious promises to us, help us to always remember that You have the power to do all that You have promised, and in full. In Christ's Name. Amen.